

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/473,667

Examiner

Olisa Anwah

Applicant(s)

QUINN ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/2/6.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 42,46-75 and 77-81.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 42, 46-75 and 77-81 are allowed.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Tony Bonner on April 27th, 2006.

AMMENDMENT to APPLICATION

4. The application has been amended as follows:
 - a) Claims 43-45 have been canceled.
 - b) Replace claim 42 with the following:

--A telephone user interface (TUI) configured to receive a command signal after a call is connected, the TUI comprising:
voice-based command mode logic for receiving a voice-based command signal from a user in association with an option of a

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first menu structure of options, said voice-based command mode logic having an active status and an inactive status;

tone-based command mode logic for receiving a tone-based command signal from the user in association with an option of a second menu structure of options, said tone-based command mode logic having an active status and an inactive status, said options of said first menu structure logically associated with said options of said second menu structure;

mode determination logic configured to determine whether a received command signal correlates with the control mode logic that is currently associated with inactive status;

translation logic configured to translate the received command signal into a format associated with the control mode logic that is currently associated with the active status, in response to the determination that the received command signal corresponds to the control mode logic that is currently associated with inactive status;

toggle determination logic configured to, in response to the translation logic translating the control signal, determine whether to toggle the voice-based command mode logic and the tone-based command mode logic between active status and inactive status by providing a user prompt and receiving a user input to the user prompt; and

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switching logic configured to, in response to the toggle determination logic determining to toggle the voice-based command mode logic and the tone-based command mode logic between active and inactive status, toggle the voice-based command mode logic and tone-based command mode logic between active status and inactive status,

wherein said active status of the tone-based command logic correlates with the inactive status of the voice-based command logic, and wherein the inactive status of the tone-based command logic correlates with the active status of the voice-based control logic.--

c) Replace claim 49 with the following:

--The TUI of Claim 42, wherein the options of the voice-based command mode logic and the tone-based command mode logic are mapped to one another to permit a command mode-to-command mode exchange.--

d) Replace claim 50 with the following:

--The TUI of Claim 42, wherein the TUI includes data storage logic configured to store first data related to the voice-based command mode logic, second data related to the tone-based command mode logic, and third data related to the voice-

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based command mode logic and the tone-based command mode logic, wherein the first data, second data, and third data correspond to a first table, a second table, and a third table, respectively.--

e) Replace claim 51 with the following:

--The TUI of Claim 50, wherein, the first table is associated a plurality of voice-based options and a plurality of indices, wherein the second table is associated with a plurality of indices and a plurality of tone-based options, and wherein the third table is associated with the plurality of indices related to the first table and a plurality of indices related to the second table.--

f) Replace claim 53 with the following:

--A telephone user interface (TUI) configured to receive a command signal after a call is connected, comprising:

voice-based command mode logic configured to receive a vocalized command signal from a user in association with a voice option of a menu structure of voice options, said voice-based command mode logic having an active status and an inactive status;

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tone-based command mode logic configured to receive a tonal command signal from the user in association with a tone option of a menu structure of tone options, said tone-based command mode logic having an active status and an inactive status, said voice options logically associated with said tone options; and

mode determination logic configured to determine whether the received command signal corresponds to the control mode logic that is currently associated with inactive status;

translation logic configured to translate the received first command signal into a format corresponding to the control mode logic that is currently associated with the active status, in response to the determination that the received first command signal corresponds to the control mode logic that is currently associated with inactive status;

toggle determination logic configured to, in response to the translation logic translating the control signal, determine whether to toggle the voice-based command mode logic and the tone-based command mode logic between active status and inactive status by providing a user prompt and receiving a user input to the user prompt; and

switching logic configured to, in response to the toggle determination logic determining to toggle the voice-based command mode logic and the tone-based command mode logic between

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active status and inactive status, toggle the voice-based command mode logic and tone-based command mode logic between active status and inactive status.--

g) Replace claim 55 with the following:

--The TUI of Claim 53, wherein the translation logic is configured to translate the first received command signal from a tone-based protocol to a voice-based protocol.--

h) Replace claim 58 with the following:

--A method in a telephone user interface (TUI) configured to receive a command signal after a call is connected, the TUI including a tone-based command mode having a menu structure of tone options and a voice-based command mode having a menu structure of voice options, wherein the tone-based command mode has an active status and an inactive status and the voice-based command mode has an active status and an inactive status, said method comprising the steps of:

- a. operating the TUI with a command mode that corresponds to active status;
- b. receiving a command signal from a user;
- c. determining whether the active command mode correlates to the command signal;

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d. in response to determining that the received command signal does not correlate with the active command mode, translating the received command signal into a format that corresponds to the active command mode;

e. in response to translating the received command signal, determining whether to toggle the tone-based command mode and the voice-based command mode between active status and inactive status by providing a user prompt and receiving a user input to the user prompt; and

f. in response to determining to toggle the tone-based command mode and the voice-based command mode between active status and inactive status, toggling the tone-based command mode and the voice-based command mode between active status and inactive status.--

i) Replace claim 66 with the following:

--A method for controlling a telephone user interface (TUI), the TUI including a plurality of command modes, the method comprising:

a. operating said TUI in a voice-based command mode;

b. receiving a command signal from a user;

c. determining whether the received command signal corresponds to the voice-based command mode;

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d. translating the received command signal to a format that corresponds to the voice-based command mode, in response to determining that the received command signal does not correspond with the voice-based command mode;

e. in response to translating the received command signal to a format that corresponds to one of said command modes, determining whether to operate the TUI in a tone-based command mode that corresponds to a format associated with the received command signal by providing a user prompt and receiving a user input to the user prompt; and

f. in response to determining to operate the TUI in the tone-based command mode, operating the TUI in the tone-based command mode that corresponds to a format associated with the received command signal.--

j) Replace claim 67 with the following:

--The method of Claim 66, further comprising operating the TUI in the tone-based command mode in response to activating said tone-based command mode.

k) Replace claim 69 with the following:

--A method in an integrated computer telephony system providing a telephone user interface (TUI), said TUI having a

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pair of command modes, the method for toggling between said command modes, comprising the steps of:

- a. operating said TUI in a tone-based command mode;
- b. receiving a command signal from a user;
- c. determining whether the received command signal corresponds to the tone-based command mode;
- d. translating the received command signal to a format that corresponds to the tone-based command mode, in response to determining that the received command signal does not correspond with the tone-based command mode;
- e. in response to translating the received command signal to a format that corresponds to the tone-based command mode, determining whether to operate the TUI in a voice-based command mode that corresponds to a format associated with the received command signal for a subsequent command signal by providing a user prompt and receiving a user input to the user prompt; and
- f. in response to determining to operate the TUI in the voice-based command mode, operating the TUI in the voice-based command mode that corresponds to a format associated with the received command signal for a subsequent command signal.--

1) Replace claim 70 with the following:

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--The method of Claim 69, further comprising the steps of receiving a subsequent command signal and activating said tone-based command mode in place of said voice-based command mode.--

m) Replace claim 71 with the following:

--A method in a program module operating within a telecommunications system and having access to a TUI, said TUI having a pair of command modes for controlling said TUI and providing a plurality of options to be implemented through the telecommunications system, the method for controlling said command modes, comprising the steps of:

implementing one of the said command modes to initially control said TUI;

in response to a command signal issued by a user after a call is connected, translating the command signal into a format corresponding to the activated command mode;

in response to translating the command signal into a format corresponding to the activated command mode, determining whether to toggle the command modes by providing a user prompt and receiving a user input to the user prompt, wherein said toggling is initiated by interrupting the operation of one of said command modes while one of said command modes is controlling said TUI, activating the other of said command modes, and

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resuming control of said TUI while in the other of said command modes for a subsequent command signal; and

in response to determining to toggle said command modes, toggling said command modes, wherein the pair of command modes includes a tone-based command mode and a voice-based command mode.--

n) Replace claim 72 with the following:

--The method of claim 71, wherein the tone-based command mode is initially controlling said TUI, said tone-based command mode is interrupted, and the voice-based command mode is activated in place of said tone-based command mode.--

o) Replace claim 77 with the following:

--A computer system for toggling command modes of a telephone user interface (TUI) having a pair of command modes, the pair of command modes including a first command mode and a second command mode, said computer system comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory storage device operative to store a program implementing said TUI; and

an interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving a call,

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said processing unit responsive to instructions in
said program and being operative to:

prompt for a command signal after a call is
connected;

activate said first command mode associated with
said command signal;

control said TUI while in said first command
mode;

receive a subsequent command signal from a user,
the subsequent command signal corresponding to a second command
mode;

translate the subsequent command signal into a
format that corresponds to the first command mode;

in response to translating the subsequent command
signal into a format that corresponds to the first command mode,
determine whether to interrupt said first command mode by
providing a user prompt and receiving a user input to the user
prompt;

in response to determining to interrupt said
first command mode, interrupt said first command mode; and

resume operation of said TUI by utilizing said
second command mode for a subsequent command signal,

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wherein the pair of command modes includes a tone-based command mode and a voice-based command mode.--

p) Replace claim 68 with the following:

--The method of Claim 66, further comprising the step of activating one of said command modes as a default command mode.--

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q) Replace claim 79 with the following:

--The computer system of Claim 77, wherein said tone-based command mode is interrupted by transmitting voice command signals into said TUI.--

r) Replace claim 80 with the following:

--The computer system of Claim 77, wherein said processing unit is further operative to:

interrupt said second command mode in response to receiving said command signal to activate said first command mode in place of said second command mode.--

s) Replace claim 81 with the following:

--The computer system of Claim 77, wherein said processing unit is further operative to:

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interrupt said first command mode in response to receiving said subsequent command signal to activate said second command mode in place of said first command mode.--

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to show toggle determination logic configured to, in response to the translation logic translating the control signal, determine whether to toggle the voice-based command mode logic and the tone-based command mode logic between active status and inactive status by providing a user prompt and receiving a user input to the user prompt.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Olisa Anwah whose telephone number is 571-272-7533. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8.30 AM to 6 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on 571-272-7547. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned

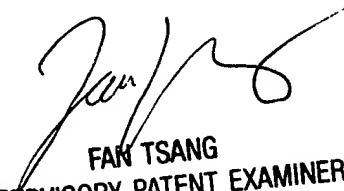
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are 571-273-8300 for regular communications and 571-273-8300 for
After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status
of this application or proceeding should be directed to the
receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.



Olisa Anwah
Patent Examiner
April 28, 2006



FAN TSANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600